

*For Immediate Release*

## Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility Relocates to Indianapolis

Plainfield, Indiana – (December 16, 2009) - As part of the Indiana Department of Correction's (IDOC) Facility Forward initiative, the facility formerly known as Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility (PREF) relocated 368 male offenders to their new residence located at the former site of the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) on the near-east side of Indianapolis. The transition took place Wednesday morning without incident. Upon their arrival to the new facility, residents received care packages and a letter from Interim Superintendent Latoya Lane welcoming them to their new home.

The move is the third step in the IDOC's comprehensive Facility Forward initiative, which is designed to enhance prison capacity, maximize current state property and assets, decrease spending through cost savings, and increase overall efficiencies. Next, the IDOC will open the Short Term Offender Program (STOP) on the grounds of PREF. The STOP facility will be designed and commissioned to address the needs and case management of offenders committed to the IDOC for less than one year.

The new Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) will continue its focus on reducing recidivism, educating offenders, and offering them vocational skills during the re-entry phase of their incarceration.

"The Facility Forward initiative is nearing completion and has gone off without a hitch," commented IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss. "Because of the tremendous teamwork and support of many stakeholders, Facility Forward is already allowing the IDOC to better prepare for the future."

Once completely implemented, Facility Forward will result in the IDOC gaining almost 2,100 beds and will save the State of Indiana nearly \$200 million.

### **About Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF)**

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility opened as a level 1 minimum restricted facility on January 13, 2006. Formerly known as PREF, this Indiana Department of Correction facility was converted into the nation's first correctional facility dedicated to re-entry. IREF continues to maintain public safety while providing residents the skills required for successful re-integration into the community, with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism. In an effort to meet these goals, IREF attempts to deinstitutionalize its residents by providing them free movement in a culture similar to civilian society inside the secure perimeter fence.

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